



## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

### [Public Notice 11261]

#### **60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Advance Notification Form: Tourist and Other Non-Governmental Activities in the Antarctic Treaty Area**

**ACTION:** Notice of request for public comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of State is seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the information collection described below. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we are requesting comments on this collection from all interested individuals and organizations. The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

**DATES:** The Department will accept comments from the public up to **[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- Web: Persons with access to the Internet may comment on this notice by going to [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov). You can search for the document by entering “Docket Number: DOS-2020-0051” in the Search field. Then click the “Comment Now” button and complete the comment form.
- E-mail: [Antarctica@state.gov](mailto:Antarctica@state.gov)
- Regular Mail: Send written comments to: William Muntean, Senior Advisor for Antarctica, Office of Ocean and Polar Affairs, Room 2665, Bureau of Oceans, Environment and Science, U.S. Department of State, 2201 C Street N.W., Washington DC 20520.

You must include the DS form number, information collection title, and the OMB control number in any correspondence.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

- Title of Information Collection: ADVANCE NOTIFICATION FORM: Tourist and Other Non-Governmental Activities in the Antarctic Treaty Area
- OMB Control Number: 1405-0181
- Type of Request: Revision of a Currently Approved Collection
- Originating Office: Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (OES/OPA)
- Form Number: DS-4131
- Respondents: Operators of Antarctic expeditions organized in or proceeding from the United States
- Estimated Number of Respondents: 25
- Estimated Number of Responses: 25
- Average Time Per Response: 9 hours
- Total Estimated Burden Time: 225 hours
- Frequency: On occasion
- Obligation to Respond: Required to comply with Article VII(5)(a) of the Antarctic Treaty and associated documents.

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department.
- Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that comments submitted in response to this Notice are public record. Before including any detailed personal information, you should be aware that your comments as submitted, including your personal information, will be available for public review.

### **Abstract of Proposed Collection**

Information solicited on the Advance Notification Form (DS-4131) provides the U.S. Government with information on tourist and other non-governmental expeditions to the Antarctic Treaty area. The U.S. Government needs this information to comply with Article VII(5)(a) of the Antarctic Treaty and associated documents.

### **Methodology**

The Form DS-4131 is available by download from the Department's website. The information will be submitted by U.S. organizers of tourist and other non-governmental expeditions to Antarctica by means of this form. The form should be submitted via e-mail, although signed originals submitted by regular mail are also valid.

**Evan T. Bloom,**

*Director.*

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